Articles to be inquired

of, in the first Metropoliticall Visitation, of the most Reuerend Father: *Richarde* by Gods Prouidence, Archbushop of Canterbury, and Primat of all ENGLANDE,

in, and for the Dioces of NORWICH.

in the yeare of our Lorde God 1605. and in the first yeare of his Graces Translation.

¶ At London printed by Raph Blower, ANNO DOMINI, 1605.

THE

Tenor of the Oath, to be miniſtred to the Churchwardens & Swornemen.

YOV ſhall ſweare, that all Affection, Fauor, Hatred, hope of Rewarde and Gaine, or feare of diſpleaſure or mallice ſet aſide: You ſhall vppon due Conſideration of the Articles giuen you in chardge: preſent all & euery ſuch perſon, of, or within your Pariſh: as hath committed any Offence or fault: or made any default mentioned in thieſe, or any of thieſe Articles: or which are vehemētly ſuſpected & defamed of any ſuch Offence: fault or default: wherin you ſhall deliuer vprightly, & according to truth: neyther of mallice: preſenting any contrary to truth: nor of corupt affection ſparing to preſent any, and ſo conceale the truth: Hauing in this action God before your Eyes: with an earneſt zeale to maintaine truth, & to ſuppreſſe vice: ſo help you God, & the Contents of this booke.

God ſaue the King.

61, 1 16

ARTICLES

To be inquired of, by the Churchwardens and ſworne men: in the Viſitation of the Lord Archbiſhop of Canterbury: within the Dioceſſe of Norwich. Anno Dom. 1605.

IN PRIMIS, Whether haue you in your ſeuerall Churches and Chappels, the booke of Conſtitutions or Canons Eccleſiaſticall, ready to be read by your Miniſter, according to his Maieſties pleaſure, publiſhed by his Highnes Authoritie, vnder the great Seale of England, and whether hath your Miniſter read the ſame or any part thereof vpon Sundaies & Holidaies, in the afternoone before diuine Seruice accordingly, yea or no?

2. Item, Whether is there any within your Parish, that hath or doth impugne, the Kings Maieſties Supremacy, and authoritie in cauſes Eccleſiaſticall: or doe any way or in any part impeach the ſame, being reſtored to the Crowne by the Lawes of this Realme eſtabliſhed in that behalfe?

3 Item, Whether is there any in your Parish, that denieth the Church of England, by Lawe eſtabliſhed vnder the Kinges moſt excellent Maieſtie, to be a true & an Apoſtolicall Church, teaching and maintayning the Doctrine of the Apoſtles?

4 Item Whether is there any in your Parish, that doth impugne any of the Articles of Religion, agreed vpon in Anno, 1562, and eſta-

eſtabliſhed in the Church of England.

5 Item, Whether doth your Miniſter vſe to pray for the Kinges Maieſtie King Iames, and for the Queenes Maieſtie, the Prince & all their Royall Progeny, with addition of ſuch ſtile and Titles, as are due and appertaining to his Maieſtie, and exhorte the people to obedience, to his Highnes, and other Maieſtrates being in authority vnder him?

6 Item, Whether is there any in your Parish, that doe impugne, or ſpeake againſt the Rites and Ceremonies, eſtabliſhed in the Church of England, or the lawfull vſe of them, you ſhall preſent their names.

7 Item, are there any in your parish, that doe impugne the gouernment of the Church of England, vnder the Kings moſt excellent Maieſtie by Arch-biſhops, Biſhops, Deanes, Arch-deacons and the reſt that beare office in the ſame: Affirming that the ſame is Ante-chriſtian, or repugnant to the worde of God.

8 Item, is there any in your parish, that doth impugne the formes of Conſecrating and ordeining of Arch-biſhops, Biſhops, Prieſts or Deacons, Affirming that the ſame is Repugnant to the worde of God, or that they who are ſo ordered in that forme are not lawfully made.

9 Item, is there any in your parish, that doth hold or frequent any Conventicles, or priuate congregations, or any that doe either make or maintaine any Conſtitutions, agreed vpon in any ſuch priuate Conventicles or aſſemblies?

10. Item, Whether any perſons haue lurked and tippled in Tauerns or Alehouſes, on Sundayes or other Holidaies, or vſed his or their manuall craft or trade, vpon the ſaid dayes or any of them, and eſpecially in the time of Diuine ſeruice.

11 Item, are there any in your Parish, that doe or haue prophaned (ſince his Maieſties laſt generall pardon) the Lords day called Sunday, or other Holidayes contrary to the orders of the Church of England, preſcribed in that behalfe?

12 Item, Whether is the preſcripte forme of Diuine ſeruice, vſed by your Miniſter vpon Sundaies and Holidayes, according to the booke of Common prayer? And whether doth your Miniſter duely obſerue all the Orders, Rites and Ceremonies, preſcribed in the ſaid booke of common Prayer, as well in reading publique Prayers,

ers, the Letany as alſo in adminiſtring the Sacraments in ſuch maner and forme as in the booke of common Prayer is inioyned?

13 Item, Whether hath any perſon in your parish quarrelled or ſtricken, or vſed any violence vnto of with your Miniſter, or any other in the Church or Church-yard, or vſed himſelfe diſorderly in the Church by filthy and prophane talke, or any other rude and immodeſt behaviour?

14 Item whether is that due reuerence, & humble ſubmiſſion vſed within your Church or Chappell, in the time of Diuine ſeruice, as by the 18. conſtitution is preſcribed, whether each one in ỳ Church or Chappel do apply and order himſelfe there in time of diuine Seruice, as by the latter part of ỳ ſame Cõſtitution is moſt commendably enioyned?

15 Item, Whether the Church wardens and Ouerſmen, from time to time doe their diligence, in not ſuffring any idle perſons or loyterers, to abide either in the Church-yard or Church-porch in Seruice or Sermon time, but cauſing them either to come into the Church to heare Diuine ſeruice, or to depart, and not to diſturbe ſuch as are hearers there.

16 Item Whether the Church-wardens doe prouide againſt euery Communion with the aduice of the Miniſter, a ſufficiente quantity of fine white Bread, and of good and wholeſome Wine for the number of the Communicants that ſhall receiue, and that to be brought in a cleane and ſweet ſtanding pot of pewter or of other pure mettle.

17 Item, Whether doth your Miniſter adminiſter the holy Communion ſo often, and at ſuch times as that euery pariſhioner may receiue the ſame at leaſt three in euery yeare, whereof once at Eaſter, as by the booke of common prayer is appointed? And whether doth your Miniſter receiue the ſame himſelfe, on euery day that he adminiſtreth it to others, and ble the words of the Inſtitution according to the booke at euery time that the Bread or Wine is renued, in ſuch manner and forme as by the Proviſo of the 21. Cannon is directed, or wherein is he faultie: and whether is warning giuen by him before hand for the Communion, as the 22. Cannon requirethe?

18 Item, Whether hath your Miniſter admitted any Notorious Offendors, or Schiſmatickes to the Communion: contrary to the

19 Item, Whether the Minister together with the Churchwardens and Questmen, do take diligent heed & care: not only that all & every of your own Parishioners, do receive thrice in every yeare as is foresaid: but also, that no Straungers of any other Parish do come often, & commonly to your Church from their own parish Church: and you are now to present the names of all those, who being ryp. yeares of age or upwards, & have not in their own Parish received the Communion, at or since Easter last?

20 Item, Have any in your parish bin Godfathers or Godmothers to their own childe: or whether your Minister, or any Godfathers or Godmothers have vsed, or do vse any other forme, annswers or speach in Baptisme: then is in the Booke of cõmon prayer appointed: or whether any which have not communicated, be admytted to be Godfathers or Godmothers?

21 Item, Whether doth your Minister vse to signe the Children with the signe of the crosse, when they are baptised: according to the booke of common prayer? and whether he hath deferred, or wilfully refused, to baptise any Infant in his Parish beeing in daunger, having him duly informed of the weakenes thereof: and whether the childe hath died in his default without baptisme?

22 Item Whether is your Minister continually resident with you vppon his benefice: or for how long time hath he bin absent? And where is he resiant for the most part, & what other benefice hath he?

23 Item Whether doth your minister preach vsualy, according to the constitutions: eyther in his own cure with you, or else in some other church or chappel neare adioyning, where no preacher is? or how often hath he bin negligent in that behalfe?

24 Item. Whether is your Minister a Preacher allowed, if yea: then by whom? if not, Whether doth he procure Sermons to be preached among you once in every month at the least, by such as are lawfully licensed?

25 Item Whether hath your minister an other benefice, and whether doth he supply his absence by a Curat that is sufficiently licensed to preach in that cure of his, whereas he himself is not resident: or otherwise in case he doth not find a preaching minister there, by reason of the smalnes thereof: Whether doth he preach at both of his Benefices vsually him selfe?

26 Item, whether is your Curat licensed to serue by ꝯ Bushop of this Diocess, or any other, and by whom?

27 Item Whether doth your Minister or Curat serue any more cures then one? if yea, then what other cure doth he also serue?

28 Item, If your minister be not licensed to preach as aforesaid, whether doth he take vpon him to expound the Scriptures, either in his own cure or else where? if yea, then you are to present him, & specifie the place where he so hath preached.

29 Item, Whether hath any person bin admitted to preach within your church or chappel, but such as you haue well knowne to be sufficiently licensed: whom haue you so admitted, you shall present their names: & how often haue any such bin so admitted to preach, and by whose procurement? And whether haue you caused euery straunge preacher, licensed, or not licensed, to subscribe his Name together with the day when he preached: & if he were licēsed, then by whom was he licensed? And whether haue they or any other preached in your Church not being soberly & decently apparelled?

30 Item, Whether doth your Lecturer and preacher reade diuine Seruice, & administer the Sacraments in his own person, Twice euery yeare: obseruing all the Ceremonies in the booke of common prayer established?

31 Item, Is there any in your parish, that do refuse to haue their Children baptised: or them selues to receiue ꝯ Communion at the handes of your Minister, because he is no preacher. You shall present their names. And if your Minister sithence the publishing of the said booke of Canons, hath receiued any such persōs [being not of his own cure] to ꝯ Communion, or Baptised any of their Children: you shal likewise present him.

32 Item whether doth your Minister weare the Surplice, whilst he is saying the publicque prayers, & ministring the Sacraments? And if he be any Graduat, whether then doth he also weare vpon his surplice during ꝯ times aforesaid, such a Hood as by the orders of his Universitie is agreeable to his degree?

33 Item, Whether doth your Minister euery Sunday and holliday before Euening prayer, for halfe an houre or more, examine and instruct the youth and ignorant persons of his parish, in ther. commandements, Articles of beliefe, and in the Lords prayer, as also in the Catechisme, set forth in the booke of Common prayer?

And whether doe all Fathers, Mothers, Maisters and Mistresses, cause their children, seruants and apprentises, to come thither to heare & to be instructed and taught therein, and those that doe not their duties herein, you shall present their names.

34 Item, Whether hath your Ministers without license from the Archbushop, the Bushop of the Diocesse or his Chancellor, solemnized mariage betwixt any parties, the banes not being three seuerall sundaies or holidaies first published in time of diuine seruice, in the seuerall Churches or Chappels, of their seueral abode according to the booke of Common prayer, & that also betwixt the houres of eight and twelue in ỳ fore-noone. And furthermore, whether hath your minister since the last Cannons published, solemnized any mariage betwixt any persons being vnder the age of 21. yeers, although the banes be thrice asked, before such time as the parents haue made knowne vnto him their consent therunto, and whether hath he married any of an other Diocesse, who are they? and by what authoritie, and when?

35. Item, Whether doth your Minister euery sunday, bid holidaies & fasting daies, as by the booke of Common prayer is appointed?

36. Item, Whether doth your minister euery six monethes, denounce in his parish, all such of his Parish as doe perseuer in the sentence of excommunication, not seeking to be absolued, and whether hath he admitted into ỳ church any persõ excõmunicat, wtout a certificat of his absolutiõ from ỳ ordinary or other cõpetent iudg?

37. Item, Whether doth your Minister being a preacher, endeuor and labour diligently, to reclaime the popish recusants in his parish from their errors: if there be any such abiding: and whether is he painefull in visiting the sicke according to the booke of Common prayer?

38 Item, Whether is your Parson vicar or Curat, to frequent or to be ouer-conuersant with, or a fauorer of recusants, whereby he is suspected not to be sincere in religion.

39 Item, Whether doe you know or haue heard of any payment, Compositiõ or agreemẽt, to, or with the Bushop, Chancellor, or any inferior Officer Ecclesiastical, for suppressing or cõcealing of excõmunication, or other Ecclesiastical censure, of or against any Recusant: what summe of Money, or other Cõsideration hath bin receiued or promised: by, or to any of them in ỳ respect, by whom:

and

and with whom: and for what summe or other consideration?

40. Item, whether is there in your Church or Chappel one parchment Register Booke, provided for Christnings, Mariages & Burials, and whether is the same duely and exactly kept according to the Constitutions in that behalfe provided?

41 Item, Whether hath your minister or any other preached, baptised Childre, solemnized Mariage, churched any woman or ministred the holy Communion in any private house or houses, otherwise the as by law is allowed yea or no: if yea, then where: whom: when and how often hath he offended in any of the Premisses?

42 Item, Whether hath your minister taken upon him to appoint any publicque or private Fasts, prophecies, or exercises not approved & established by Law or publique authoritie, or hath he attempted upon any pretence either of possession or oblession, by fasting and prayer to cast out deuils yea or no?

43. Item, whether hath your minister or any other person or persons within your parish used to met in any privat house or otherplace, there to consult togither, how to impeach or deprave the Booke of Common prayer, or the Doctrine or Discipline of the Church of England, if yea, then you shall present them all?

44. Item, Whether doth your minister vse such decency & Comlinesse in his apparell, as by the 74 constitution is inioyned?

45 Item, Whether doe you know any in your parish that having heretofore taken upon him or them, the order of Priest-hode or of a Deacon, hath since relinquished the same, and betaken himselfe in the course of his life as a lay man neglecting his vocation if yea, then you shall present his name, and the place of his abode?

46 Item, Doth any take upon him to teach Schole in your parish wout speciall licence of his ordinary? & whether doth your Schole-maister bring his schollers to the Church to heare Diuine seruice and Sermons?

47 Item, Whether is your minister noted or defamed to haue obteined his benefice by Symony, or reputed to be an incontinente person, a common drunkard a comnon gamster, or player at dice, or faulty in any other crime punishable by the Ecclesiasticall censures, whereby he is offensiue and scandalous to his function or ministery.

48 Item, Whether haue you provided the booke of common pray-

er lately set forth by his Maiesties authoritie, and the booke of Ceremonies, and whether have you in your Church or chappell a Font of stone set vp in the ancient vsuall place, a conuenient and decent communion Table with a carpet of silke, or some other decente stuffe, and a faire linnen cloth to laye thereon at the Communion time, and whether is the same Table then placed in such conuenient sort wthin the Chauncel or church, as that the minister may be best heard in his prayer & Administration, & that the greater number may communicate: And whether are the ten commandements set vpon the East ende of your church or chappell, where the people may best see and reade them, and other sentences of holy scripture written on the walls likewise for that purpose?

49 Item, Whether have you a conuenient seate for your minister to reade Service in, together with a comely Pulpit set vp in a conuenient place with a decent cloth or cushion for the same: a comely large Surplice, a faire Cõmunion Cup of gold, siluer, or other pure mettle, and a couer agreeable for the same, with all other thinges and ornaments necessarie for the celebration of diuine Seruice and administration of the Sacraments?

50 Item, Whether are your Churches or Chappels with the Chancels thereof, and your personage or Vicherydge house and all other housing thereto belonging in good reparations, & decent and comely kept as well within as without, the seates well maynteined, a sure coffer with two locks and keyes for the safe keeping of your Register booke, your Church-yardes well fenced and kept without abuse, if not, then through whose default & what defects are?

51 Item, Whether haue you or your predecessors Church-wardens there suffered since the last pardõ, any plaies, feasts, bãquets, Church ales, drinkings, or any other prophane vsages to be kept in your church, Chappell or church yard, or bels to be rung superstitiously vpon holidayes or daies abrogated by Lawe.

52 Item, How many inhabitants within your parish, men or women aboue th'age of 16 yeeres, do refuse to frequent diuine seruice, established by publique authoritie of this Realme, or to receiue the holy Communion, what be their names, and of what degree state or trade of life are they, you are to present them all of both sorts?

53 Item, Whether doe any of the inhabitants of your said parish, entertaine within their house any soiorners, lodgers, or any com-

mon

men reforers and guests, who refuse to frequent diuine seruice, or receiue ẏ holy Communion as aforesaid, what be their names? of what quality or condition they are?

54 Item, Whether are any of the said popish recusants of insolent behauiour not without publique offence, or doe boldly busy themselues in seducing and withdrawing others, either abroad or in their owne families by instructing their children in popish Religion, or by refusing to entertaine any (especially in place of greatest seruice or trust, but such as contrarie with them in opinion of religion?

55 Item, How long the said popish Recusantes haue obstinately abstained either from diuine seruice, or from the Communion as is aforesaide: Whether of any long time, or onely since his Maiesties Reigne?

56 Item, Whether is your Minister a preacher sufficiently qualified and if he be, whether doth he from time to time offer quiet and temperate conference to reclaime the said popish Recusantes from their errors, and whether they or any of them doe refuse such conference with your Minister or any other Preacher, who shall present vnto them his diligence in that behalfe?

57 Item, What persons aforesaid within your parish either for theffence aforesaid, or for any other Contumacy, or crime, doe remaine excommunicat, what be their names and for what cause, and how long they haue in scrole excommunicate?

58 Item, Whether were you ẏ Churchwardens and Questmen chosen by the consent of ẏ Minister & Parishioners: and whether haue the Churchwardens before you, giuen vp a iust accompt for their time, and deliuered to you their successors whatsoeuer money or other things of right belonging to ẏ Church, which was in their hands, and whether doe you and euery of you diligently see that all the parishioners doe duely resort to their church euery sunday and holiday, and there continue the whole time of Diuine seruice, and none to walke or stande idle, or talking in Church or Churchporch or Churchyarde during that time: and whether do al ẏ parishioners and their familes accordingly frequente their Parish Church, & there behaue themselues soberly, attentiuely, & decently, al the time of Diuine seruice, yea or no: if no, then you shal present their names?

59 Item, Whether doe all persons aboue ẏ age of 16 yeres vsually

ally resort to heare Diuine Seruice vpon Sundayes and Holidayes approoued, and whether hath euery one of your parishioners, (being aboue the age of 16 yeres aforesaid) receiued the holy Communion thrice this last yeere, christmy once at Easter in your parish church kneeling, if no, then you shall present their names which haue not so done?

60 Item, Whether haue you a fit parish Clarke aged twenty yeres at least of honest conuersation, and sufficient for reading and writing, and whether he be paide his wages without fraude according to the most auncient custome of your parish, if not, then by whom is he so detayned and denied? and whether he be chosen by the parson or Vicar or by whome?

61 Item, Whether haue any in your parish beene married within the prohibited degrees, forbidden by the Lawe of God, and expressed in a certaine table published by Authoritie in Anno, 1563. if yea, then you shall present their names, and whether haue you the said Table publiquely set vp in your Church, & fastened to some conuenient place there?

62 Item, whether doth any heretofore diuorced keep company with any other at Bed and at Bord? what be their names? When and where were they maried?

63 Item, Doth your Minister vse the forme of thankes giuing to women after Child birth, and whether hath he admitted any thereunto, that was begotten with child in aduultery or fornication without licence of his ordinarie, and whether haue any maried Women refused to come to church according to the booke of common prayer, to giue God thankes after Childe-birth, if any be faulty herein you shall present their names?

64 Item, whether haue you any in your parish which heretofore being popish recusants or sectuaries, haue since conformed themselues and come to church to heare Diuine seruice and receiue the Sacraments if yea, then who they are, and how long sithence haue they so conformed themselues, and whether doe they still remaine and abide in that conformitie?

65 Item, What Recusant papists are there in your parish, and whether doe they or any of them keep any Schole-maister in their house, which cōmeth not to church to heare diuine seruice & receiue the Communion? what is his name, and how long hath he taught?

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66 Item, Whether haue you any in your parish to your knowledge or by common fame and report, which haue committed adulterie fornication or Incest, which haue not bin publiquely punished to your knowledge? if yea, then with whome? Are there any which are or by common fame and Reporte are reputed and taken to be common Drunkards, Blasphemers of Gods holy name, common and vsuall Swearers, filthy speakers, Vsurers, Symoniacal persons, Fighters, Brawlers, or Quarellers in Church or Churchyard, you shall not faile to present their names?

67 Item, whether haue any in your parish receiued or harbored any woman gotten with childe out of Wedlocke, and suffered them to depart again without punishment first inflicted on them by their ordinary, you shall truely present as well the partie harboring as harbored, and who is suspected to be father of her child?

68 Item, Whether hath any person within your parish promised or payed any somme of money or other reward directly or indirectly by himselfe or any other, or committed his or her pennance for any incest, adultery, fornication, or any other Ecclesiasticall crime, if so, then with whom? when? and for what? and how hath the same bene imployed?

69 Item, Whether is your Chancelor, and euery other inferior Ecclesiasticall iudge a Maister of Artes, or Batchelor of Lawes at the least, and learned and practised in the ciuill and Ecclesiasticall Lawes, a man of good life and conuersation and Zealously affected in Religion?

70 Item, Whether any person or persons suspected or detected heretofore of incontinency, and therefore departing out of your parish for a season is now returned againe, or in what place else is he or she now abiding to your knowledge or as you haue heard? you shal not faile to present the whole truth in that behalfe?

71 Item, Whether are there in your Parish any Wills not yet proued, or goods of the dead dying intestate left vnadministred by authoritie of the ordinarie in that behalfe? you shal not faile to present the Executors, and all others faulty and culpable therein.

72 Item, Hath any Chanceller, Commissary, Arch-deacon, official, or any other exercising Ecclesiasticall Iurisdiction within this your Diocese, or any Register, Apparator, or Minister belonging to the same Ecclesiasticall courts, exacted extra-ordinary

or

or greater fay then heretofore of late have bene accuſtomed, and whether is there a tableof the rates of all thos ſet vp in their ſeuerall Courts and Offices, or whether they or any of them have taken vpon them by office or pretenſe of iuriſdiction or priuiledge to the courts, or otherwiſe any abuſes themſelues in their Offices contrary to the Lawes and Statutes in that cafe prouided?

73 Item, Do any of or within your Parifh affirme, or haue they affirmed that the ſacred Synode of this Nation aſſembled by ꝑ Kings authoritie, is not the true church of England by Repreſentation: or doth any or both any of your parifh affirme, that no perſons either of the Clergie or laity, that were not perſonally preſent in ꝑ ſaid late Synode, are ſubiect to the decrees thereof in cauſes Eccleſiaſtical, made & ratified by ꝑ Kings ſupreame Authoritie: becauſe they gaue not vp their voices vnto them, yea ſhal preſent their names?

74 Item, is there any among you, that dare or doe depraue the ſayd late Synode, ſaying or affirming, that ꝑ ſame was a company of ſuch perſons as did conſpire together againſt godly and religious profeſſors of the Goſpell, and that therefore both they and their proceedings in that behalfe are and ought to be reiected and contemned or words to the like effect, you ſhall not faile to preſent thoſe perſons?

75 Item, What number of Apparators haue euery ſeuerall Iudge Eccleſiaſtical, and wherein, and in what manner is the countrey ouer-burthened and grieued by the ſaid Apparators?

76 Item, Whether doe you know of any other matter of Eccleſiaſticall cognizance, whereby the preſentment in your iudgement aboue not expreſſed, which you thinke fit to be reformed, and if you doe, you ſhall likewiſe preſent the ſame by vertue of your oaths.

FINIS.

UNIV. DUNELM.